

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 ABF-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

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TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 186257

KUWAIT ALSO PASS DOHA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, PFOR, UNRWA, XF

SUBJECT: UNRWA DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

REF: BEIRUT 9758 (NOTAL)

1. DEPT APPRECIATES EMBASSY'S PROMPT TRANSMITTAL DRAFT
REPORT WHICH SEEMS TO US PARTICULARLY LUCID, WELL-ORGANIZED
AND USEFUL THIS YEAR. IN FORMAL REMARKS TO ADCOM MEETING,
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US REP MAY WISH TO COMMEND REPORT IN TERMS ABOVE, AND

PRAISE COMGEN FOR HIS SKILLFUL AND TIRELESS HANDLING OF THE AGENCY'S AFFAIRS THROUGH THE CONSTANT CRISES OF THIS YEAR.

2. USREP SHOULD ALSO UNDERLINE OUR DEEP CONCERN OVER THE SERIOUS DOLS 39 MILLION DEFICIT UNRWA FACES IN 1975 AND TOGETHER WITH OTHER REPS WHO SHOULD BE EQUALLY CONCERNED STEER ADCOM'S DELIBERATIONS TOWARD ANOTHER EFFORT, LED BY ADCOM'S ARAB MEMBERS, TO GET GREATLY INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ARAB OIL PRODUCERS. FYI. OUR EXPERIENCE LAST YEAR INDICATED THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME HOPE OF SUCH INCREASES IN REGULAR CONTRIBUTION IF THE APPEAL IS MADE BEFORE PLEDGES ARE ANNOUNCED. SUCH AN APPEAL WILL ALSO BE VERY IMPORTANT TO OUR CONTINUING CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS CONCERNING UNRWA. END FYI.

3. IN PRIVATE COMMENTS TO COMGEN, EMBASSY MAY TELL HIM THAT WE ARE MUCH IMPRESSED WITH THE HUMANE OBJECTIVITY WHICH HE HAS ACHIEVED IN THE TONE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT. REPORT ALSO STRIKES US AS WELL DESIGNED TO MEET POLITICAL COMPLEXITIES COMGEN FACES.

4. IN REGARD COMGEN'S DESIRE FOR FORMAL GOVERNING BODY (REFTEL PARA 1A) FOLLOWING VIEWS SHOULD BE CONVEYED TO HIM IN PRIVATE. DEPT UNDERSTANDS HIS DESIRE SHARE HIS HEAVY RESPONSIBILITIES, PARTICULARLY FOR FINANCING. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH A BODY, IN WHICH ARAB NATIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE REPRESENTED ADEQUATELY, WOULD VERY GREATLY INCREASE HIS POLITICAL AND OPERATIONAL DIFFICULTIES BY GENERATING DEMANDS ON HIM AND THE AGENCY BEYOND UNRWA'S FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CAPACITY TO FULFILL. BODY WOULD ALSO PROVIDE IDEAL FORUM FOR ENDLESS AND UNHELPFUL RHETORIC ON MIDDLE EAST ISSUES. VERY EFFORT TO ESTABLISH SUCH AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WOULD BE OCCASION FOR UNDESIRABLE CONTENTION. FINALLY, CREATION OF PERMANENT EXECUTIVE BODY COULD APPEAR TO MANY IN MIDDLE EAST, AND ELSEWHERE, AS CONFIRMATION THAT USG AND OTHERS EXPECT UNRWA, AND HENCE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM, TO CONTINUE INDEFINITELY.

5. CONCERNING CHARGES IN UNRWA'S MANDATE, WE WOULD NOT WANT TO PRE-EMPT DECISION, WHICH SHOULD BE MADE IN COURSE
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OF GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS, ON POSSIBILITY AND NATURE OF AN EXPANDED ROLE FOR UNRWA UNDER AN EVENTUAL SETTLEMENT. IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT SUCH A DECISION WILL BE REACHED BEFORE UNRWA IS DISCUSSED IN GA SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE. WE ACCORDINGLY PREFER A SIMPLE EXTENSION OF UNRWA'S PRESENT MANDATE UNTIL OUTLINE OF MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT BECOMES CLEAR.

6. EMBASSY SHOULD EMPHASIZE TO COMGEN THAT USG RESERVATIONS ON THESE TWO ISSUES (PARAS 4 AND 5) WHICH WE RECOGNIZE ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO HIM, DO NOT IMPLY ANY DIFFERENCES WHATEVER IN HIS AND OUR ASSESSMENTS OF THE ACUTE FINANCIAL AND POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES WITH WHICH HE IS CONTENDING. WE WILL GIVE EVERY SUPPORT POSSIBLE IN 1975 TO HIS SKILLFUL ADMINISTRATION OF UNRWA'S ESSENTIAL WORK. KISSINGER

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